boy from each taluk might be granted a scholarship for a certain number of years. The provision of facilities for the study of agricultural and industrial pursuits along with the general education would be a blessing to them in their struggle for existence. He prayed that a departmental lower grade elementary school might be started at an early date at Marankulam in the Tiruvalla taluk.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

129. Education of the Pulayas.

Mr. Aiyan Kali (Member, Nominated) said, at the very outset, that the number of members annually nominated from his community was reduced from three to one during the current session. Proceeding to his subject, he represented that the educational progress among the Pulayas, during the last year, showed that further substantial advancement was possible with the help and sympathy of the Government. Though all the public places and most of the departmental schools were rendered accessible to them, they were actually admitted in not more than 25 Sirkar schools. The only obstacle to their progress came from the uneducated members of other communities and the Member hoped that the obstruction would soon vanish with the avowed sympathy on the part of the educated men and the Government. When attending school, a Pulaya boy was never dirty and it would not therefore be right to allege their dirty habits as a cause for excluding them from schools. To exclude them on the ground of their lower stage of civilization was to induce them to change their religion, because from the moment that was done, admission became free and easy. He said that the fear that diffusion of knowledge among them would prejudicially affect the supply of field labourers was unfounded, and quoted the instance of the industrial and agricultural prosperity closely following upon the abolition of slavery. It was neither possible nor expedient to start separate schools all over the State. Further, by that step, they would be denied admission to the public schools. The half-fee concessions did not really benefit them as there were only 30 Hindu Pulaya boys and one girl enjoying them now. A number of scholarships would assist them considerably in the prosecution of higher education. When a rich community like the Mahomedans got the half-fee concessions, he thought it was not too much to ask for total exemption from fees in respect of the Pulayas. There was greater difficulty in getting admission to the girls' schools. He also prayed that along with the general education, the boys of his community should be given training in some trade or craft.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

130. Need for more technical institutes.

Mr. C. Krishnan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) said that Government aid was not being rendered to any technical institute in North Travancore. The technical institutes in the taluks of Vaikam and Shertalay deserved special consideration, as the condition of general education in those taluks was very backward. A number of young men who had received a smattering of English education could with advantage be trained for technical work and enabled to earn their own livelihood. He requested that steps might also be taken towards the improvement of technical education in the whole State.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

131. Educational needs of the Tovala taluk.

Mr. S. Lakshminarayana Aiyar (Member, Tovala taluk) said that there was no higher grade elementary school in the taluk and the people were therefore put to very great difficulties in sending their boys to distant places to study in Class V. He requested that a higher grade elementary school might therefore be opened in the taluk at some convenient centre or at least one higher class sanctioned in each year. The old granary buildings in which most of the departmental schools in the taluk were being held could be auctioned for good prices. That amount, with the contributions from the people and the Government, might be utilized for the construction of new buildings for those schools. He also suggested that arrangements should be made for teaching Tamil and Malayalam in all the elementary schools of the taluk. The pupils who passed from Class IV were now admitted to the Preparatory Class in the secondary school, while a private student could be examined and admitted to any higher class for which he was fit. The Member said that such a privilege should be allowed in the case of those who sought admission from recognised schools as well.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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